



## Grand Rapids Dominicans

2025 E. Fulton Street · Grand Rapids, MI 49503-3895

January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2006

The Dominican Sisters: Grand Rapids have had a long-standing commitment to the Care of Earth. In Assembly in 1992, we agreed that this Direction Statement would be a guiding principle for us and we have worked diligently to keep it in our consciousness and decision-making.

### Relationship with the Earth

*We commit ourselves to foster the contemplative stance that all the earth is sacred and interconnected; respect and accountability for the earth are necessary to the survival of life. We affirm that actions, which affect the environment, will be preceded by the question: Is this action which I (we) are performing supportive of the environment?*

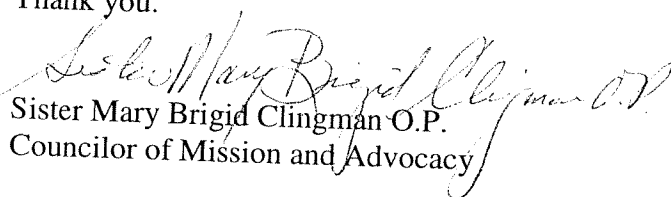
It is out of this stance, that we support the recommendations offered by the Great Lakes, Great Michigan Coalition which we have endorsed. We share their concern for

- The self-certification of water conservation
- Preventing diversion of the Great Lakes water
- Protecting Michigan's natural resources

We share this concern also with other religious communities in the state represented by the Promoters of Justice within Region 7 of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious.

We urge you to vote for these amendments to strengthen SB 850-852.

Thank you.

  
Sister Mary Brigid Clingman O.P.  
Councilor of Mission and Advocacy